



# AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

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## Here and Abroad

People—Places—Events

### SPAIN TAKES ACTION

The Spanish government is attempting to cut down the high illiteracy rate among the nation's population. About 1 person in 7 in the country is unable to read or write.

Two special laws have been passed in an attempt to remedy this situation. One provides that all large agricultural, industrial, and mining concerns must set up their own schools to educate the children of their employees. The other law cuts the wages of parents who put their children to work instead of sending them to school.

### FLOOD AID

For years the United States has been giving aid to many parts of the world. Now this country is receiving gifts from several other nations to help flood victims in the northeastern states. Money, clothing, and other gifts are being sent here from England, the Dominican Republic, and the Netherlands.

### UNUSUAL INCOME

The government makes a profit by selling buffalo meat in South Dakota. A herd of buffalo at Custer Park in that state must be kept small, as the grazing area is limited. The herd is trimmed in size by using some of the animals as a source of meat. Last year, the sale of this meat earned \$88,000, and was the park's major source of revenue.

### UNDERWATER COAL

An offshore coal project which could rival our nation's offshore oil boom is under way in Scotland. Experts have found a large coal field under the ocean floor off the east coast of Scotland. They are drilling in the area, about a mile from shore, to find out how much coal is there. No offshore coal mining is being done in the United States, but Chile, Canada, and Japan are taking coal from deposits miles out to sea.

### WORLD COPYRIGHTS

A new United Nations copyright treaty went into effect recently in many of the major countries of the world. The main feature of the treaty is that it requires the participating nations—including the United States—to grant copyright protection to foreigners equal to that given their own citizens. Copyright laws apply to original literary, scientific, and artistic contributions.

### INSTALLMENT BUYING

Europeans are enjoying a custom long followed in the United States—buying on credit and paying for goods over a period of time. This practice began in several European nations about 3 years ago. It is now so popular that some countries have had to exert control measures to slow down the trend.



HOW MANY of these young men could pass a rigid physical examination? President Eisenhower is having a study made of the fitness of our youth to try to find out whether we are becoming a country of physically soft people.

## Denver Youth Parley

President Eisenhower Will Hold Big Conference This Week to Discuss Physical Fitness of Young People

THIS week, at President Eisenhower's vacation headquarters in Colorado, there is to be a conference dealing with the physical fitness of America's young people. Delegates include health and physical education authorities, leaders of youth organizations, and the representatives of various other interested groups. Vice President Nixon is scheduled to preside, and Eisenhower himself will be present at one or more meetings during the 2-day conference.

The subject to be discussed—the health and stamina of American youth—is perhaps one of the most important long-range problems facing our country today. A nation—no matter how rich it may be in material goods—cannot remain stronger or more vigorous than its inhabitants. If the people become soft, and too dependent upon luxuries, the nation's power is almost sure to decline.

Since America has long been regarded as one of the most sports-minded of all countries, it may seem strange that anyone should raise the question as to whether our young people are sufficiently strong and vigorous. Nevertheless, certain health authorities and other individuals feel that there is cause for worry, and President Eisenhower agrees with

them. That is why he has called the conference which is to open at Lowry Air Force Base, near Denver, tomorrow.

It is very hard to form any definite conclusions about the health and physical fitness of American youth. There are too many bits of information and evidence which seem to point in different directions.

We know, for example, that various childhood diseases have been practically wiped out, so that the death rate among children and young people has fallen sharply. There is definite indication, too, that the youths of today are growing larger and taller than did those of earlier generations.

On the other hand, we see a high rate of draft rejections—for physical and mental defects—among young men of military age. Also, there have been scientific studies whose results seem to show that the physical fitness of American youths doesn't measure up to that of the young people in certain European countries.

Noteworthy are the figures on a group of 6 exercises—known as the Kraus-Weber Tests for Muscular Fitness—which are supposed to measure a person's body flexibility and also the strength of his back and ab-

(Concluded on page 2)

## Indonesia Holds First Elections

Many Complex Problems Will Confront New Parliament in Young Asian Land

INDONESIA will hold its first national elections this week. On Thursday, September 29, millions of citizens in the sprawling island republic will vote for members of parliament.

It will be some weeks before the balloting is completed and final results are known. In certain remote and unsettled areas it has not been possible to set up election machinery and to register voters in time for the balloting. But on the island of Java, where nearly two thirds of Indonesia's 80,000,000 people live, the elections are expected to go off on schedule.

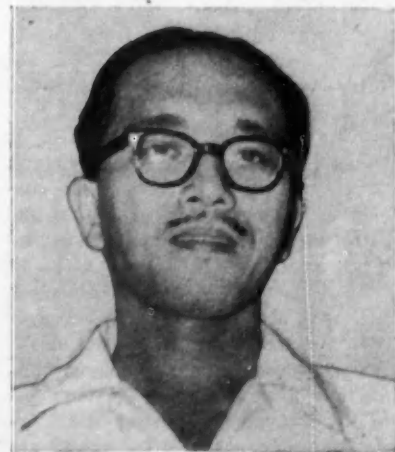
U. S. leaders are closely watching the political developments in Indonesia. They are particularly interested to see how the communists fare in the voting. Our leaders are hopeful that the Reds will suffer a rebuff. Our country feels it urgent that this large, young nation in Asia not fall under communist control.

Though Indonesia is seldom regarded as one of the big nations of the world, it ranks sixth in population (after China, India, Russia, the United States, and Japan). If set down on the U. S., Indonesia would—in length—stretch from California to New York, and—in width—would extend from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico.

In natural resources, some authorities believe that only the United States and the Soviet Union are ahead of Indonesia. Lying between the Indian and Pacific Oceans, the island nation is located at one of the great ocean crossroads of the world. Its position enables it to rank high in trade and commerce.

Indonesia is made up of more than 2,000 islands, lying in tropical seas along the equator. The westernmost island is Sumatra, whose area is about

(Continued on page 6)



BURHANUDDIN HARAHAP  
Premier of Indonesia



# U. S. Youths' Physical Fitness Discussed

(Concluded from page 1)

dominal muscles. Several thousand children and young people in the United States, Austria, Italy, and Switzerland have been tested with these exercises. More than 91 per cent of the Europeans as compared to only about 42 per cent of the Americans have been able to do the entire group satisfactorily.

U. S. draft rejection figures are likewise disturbing. About 15 per cent of all the men examined for prospective military service during the Korean War period were rejected for physical reasons alone, and quite a few also were turned aside for physical disability in combination with other defects.

Many people take such facts and figures as definite evidence that Americans, in general, are becoming too soft and weak—that our nation isn't paying enough attention to the problem of physical fitness. Others feel that this view is unduly pessimistic. Some authorities, for example, contend that the Kraus-Weber Tests do not constitute an adequate standard for judging young people's strength and stamina.

## Draft Rejections

It is also mentioned that the draft rejection figures don't necessarily provide a good measurement. A man whose general physical condition is excellent can be rejected for military service if, for example, he has certain defects due to accidental injury. On the other hand, soft and flabby individuals are frequently taken into the armed forces and "toughened up."

People who think there isn't much to worry about, so far as Americans' physical fitness is concerned, proceed with their arguments as follows:

"Compare today's youths, from the standpoint of height and weight, with those of earlier generations. The average freshman at Yale University is over 2 inches taller and about 15 pounds heavier than the average freshman of 40 years ago. During the last 30 years, according to the U. S. Office of Education, the average height of 14-year-old boys has increased by about 2½ inches, and the weight by more than 18 pounds.

"A person's size, of course, doesn't give a perfect measurement of his health and strength. Nevertheless, these averages must certainly mean that Americans, over the years, are becoming healthier and more robust. The improvement is occurring because of better medical care, better food, and more knowledge of what constitutes a proper diet."

Such arguments don't fully satisfy the people who are worried about the health and strength of our youths. They reply:

"Our country's health situation is undoubtedly improving in many ways. Numerous diseases have been conquered. People receive better food and better medical attention than in earlier times, and they live longer.

"But does all this necessarily mean that we are tougher and stronger than the Americans of earlier days? Probably not. We live longer than did our ancestors, but we don't get so much exercise as they did. We don't do so much physical work, and consequently we are not so rugged.

"Our work is done for us by an

ever-growing array of machines and gadgets. We often use automobiles even for short trips of a few blocks. We ride elevators instead of climbing stairs.

"In early times, most Americans were raised on the farm—where they chopped wood, walked behind horse-drawn plows, swung scythes, and performed hard tasks of many other kinds. Today, most youngsters are brought up in towns and cities—where there are comparatively few heavy chores to be done around the home. Even

indicates. But are we today? Let's not delude ourselves. We have become a race of grandstand and bleacher sitters. We think it is sport to find a good vantage point in the stands and watch professional baseball, football, boxing, and horse racing."

"Furthermore, TV is now making it unnecessary even to take the meager exercise of climbing into a grandstand. Television's benefits should not be underestimated; but, at the same time, most authorities agree that it does considerable harm by providing young

classes of one kind or another. But many of these classes devote a large part of their time to games which, according to health experts, don't really contribute much toward body building and muscular development.

These authorities believe that added stress should be placed on such activities as running, jumping, swimming, tumbling, and wrestling. It is argued, besides, that all schools should take greater interest in helping to improve the physical condition of the average student than in developing a handful of basketball, football, or track stars.

(2) Urge city governments, along with various private clubs and organizations, to sponsor large-scale recreation programs under which great numbers of young people would be given the opportunity to take part in muscle-building sports.

## Delinquency Question

A commentator recently referred to the Denver meeting as the "juvenile delinquency conference." Juvenile delinquency, however, is not expected to be a primary topic there. Well-planned recreational programs are widely recognized as powerful weapons in the fight against crime among youth, but it would be a mistake to regard this as their main purpose. We have large numbers of young people who are in no great danger of getting into trouble with the law, but who need additional exercise for its own sake.

Reduction of juvenile delinquency may well be an important by-product of any intensified fitness program which the nation manages to develop. But leaders of the Denver conference hope to center their main interest on the positive goal of building a stronger and more rugged American population.

(What is your opinion about the issues brought up in this article? For example, do you agree that a school should put more stress on the muscular improvement of all students than upon the development of top-notch teams for interscholastic contests?)

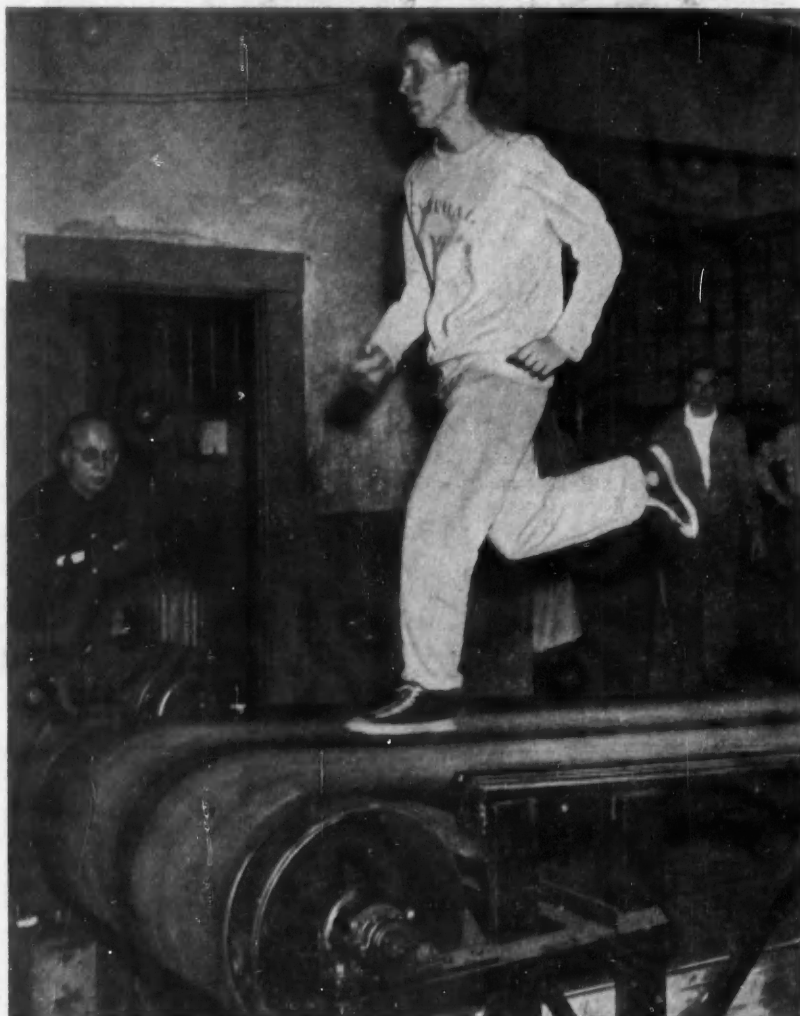
What do you think of the assertion that too many American youths are becoming soft and flabby?

In your opinion, does television play a harmful role by keeping young people from taking part in more active forms of recreation?

Write and tell us your views. After a few weeks, we'll give a report on the answers that are received.)

Scientists are chiseling away at a sandstone bluff in the Dinosaur National Monument near Jensen, Utah. Among other things, they seek new facts on what caused the giant dinosaurs to vanish from the earth between 60 and 100 million years ago. Remains of the prehistoric monsters are plentiful in the Utah bluff, and at various other places in the western part of our country.

Millions of years ago there were dinosaurs—some of them 80 feet long—on every continent. Many scientists think they perished because of the disappearance of the swamps in which they lived, and because they couldn't adjust to changes in the earth's climate and its plant life.



THIS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT is getting a track workout on a treadmill in preparation for a big meet. It's one way for youth to keep in trim.

on the farm, machines are taking over more and more of the hard work.

"Naturally, Americans want to continue with their high standard of living. They want to keep their luxuries and their labor-saving machines. But if they are to do so—if the country, in other words, is to remain strong and prosperous—the people must keep themselves tough and vigorous.

"If Americans grow soft and flabby because of their luxuries, then the nation eventually will become weak—both from a military and from an economic standpoint. Its standard of living will decline, along with its strength.

"Even our great enthusiasm for sports isn't being channeled in such a way as to provide our people with the body-building activities which they need. Listen to Avery Brundage, of the United States, who is president of the International Olympic Committee. He says:

"We in America . . . think we are the greatest sports nation in the world. For many years we were, as a long history of Olympic triumphs

people with a form of amusement that requires no physical exertion whatever."

Many observers feel that the foregoing set of arguments is entirely too gloomy. They point out that millions of Americans are active participants in such sports as bicycle riding, roller skating, softball, horse-shoes, golf, tennis, skiing, volleyball, and bowling. They argue that we are not primarily a nation of spectators, as is so often charged.

In spite of the differing viewpoints about the health and stamina of America's young people, practically nobody criticizes the holding of the Denver conference on physical fitness. It is generally agreed that there is plenty of room for improvement. Delegates at the conference will seek the best ways in which we might bring about such improvement. Here are some lines of action that are likely to be mentioned:

(1) Encourage better physical education programs in the schools. Most students in junior and senior high school attend physical education



## Ideas Do Spread

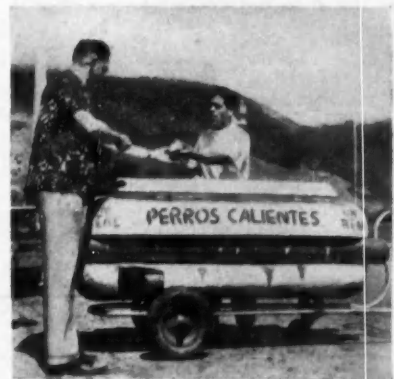
Peoples All Over the World  
Adopting Our Customs

AMERICAN customs and ways of doing things are having a great impact on many countries of the world. The United States is affecting the agricultural, industrial, economic, and social life of millions of people.

This development has been brought about by several factors since the end of World War II. Chief among these have been the influence of American troops stationed in many countries, aid programs to our allies, and an increased exchange of movies, newspapers, and magazines.

Americanization takes different forms in different countries. It includes popcorn, Coca-Cola, and hot dogs, as well as tractors and mass-production methods.

England and France have been more influenced by our customs than most other nations. In England, newspapers now publish American comic strips, commercial television has just had its start, and soda fountains are becoming popular. British factory workers



**HOT DOG** vendor in Caracas, Venezuela. Many Latin Americans like the tasty snack as much as most of us do. Frankfurters and soft drinks are also becoming increasingly popular in Europe and other parts of the world.

have increased their productivity with the aid of American machinery and methods.

In France, housewives dream of owning modern American kitchen appliances. Even though the French custom has been to enjoy leisurely meals, there has been a big growth of snack bars and self-service restaurants in that country.

Other European nations have also felt the impact of America's way of life. In Germany, soft drinks have become popular, advertising methods have become more like ours, and children can be seen dressed like Roy Rogers or Davy Crockett.

American movies are popular in Spain. So are our skyscrapers. Many new industries in that land have been set up along lines similar to those in this country.

In Japan, the United States represents progress and reform. During the years of occupation since World War II, Americans have helped to modernize Japan's educational system, establish religious freedom, and set up free trade unions.

Nations in Latin America have also been borrowing and copying from the United States. In Mexico, Brazil, and other lands, our movies and magazines are popular. So are American cars and numerous other products made in U. S. factories.



THIS PICTURE symbolizes work being carried out by United Nations engineers in underdeveloped parts of Africa and South America. A series of ABC radio programs (one is on the air tonight) is dramatizing the UN's work.

## Radio-TV-Movies

THE ABC radio network is currently presenting a special series of broadcasts relating to the achievements of the United Nations since its establishment 10 years ago. The programs, called "Assignment 10," are heard each Monday evening. John Daly, well-known newscaster, is the narrator.

The series covers the varied accomplishments of the United Nations, both in this country and throughout the world. The charitable work of the organization's special agencies is being featured.

For instance, programs will be devoted to work done in health, education, agriculture, and other fields related to the welfare of the world's population. Visits will be made to underdeveloped areas and nations to examine what the UN is doing to feed, educate, and raise the health standards of the people.

For a favorable report of the work done by the United Nations since its birth in 1945, tune in "Assignment 10" on the ABC radio network.

Commercial television was seen in Britain last week for the first time. Until then, there was only one radio and TV network in England—the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). It is owned and operated by the government, and does not accept commercial advertising. It gets most of its income from a yearly fee which each television set owner pays.

Now, however, a second network, called the Independent Television Authority, is in operation. It is also sponsored by the government, but commercial companies pay for the programs and advertise their products, just as is the case in our country. The new station has arranged to show, on film, some top-rated U. S. television programs, and will compete with BBC by trying to provide a greater variety of entertainment.

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The Junior Journal TV show, described in this column last week, has been temporarily canceled. We shall inform our readers when it does begin.

## Science in the News

WITHIN the near future you may be able to see the person with whom you are talking on the telephone. This is the prediction of experts who recently watched 2 men, seated 1 mile apart, chat on a telephone while looking at each other. The men were taking part in the first public demonstration of a 2-way videophone system—telephones with TV viewers attached to them.

The experts believe that the telephone-TV system will be in wide use by the 1960's. First it will be employed in such places as factories and hospitals. A factory superintendent with such an installation could sit in his office, get a foreman on the phone, and ask to see how a faulty production line was performing.

One-way systems, which enable either the telephone caller or the receiver of the call to be seen, are now being used in several hundred places throughout the country. The 2-way hook-up, is much more complicated—and much more expensive. Before too long, though, the latter system is expected to be in fairly wide use.

New accident-proof clothes may play a big role in reducing the number of traffic accidents. Scientists have perfected a unique kind of yarn which can be woven into ordinary clothing. When the beam from automobile headlights hits the cloth, it shines in the dark and reflects the light back to the driver of the vehicle.

Tests show that a driver can easily see the new cloth at distances which would make ordinary garments invisible. For example, a driver can see a typical grey dress 500 feet away, but he can see a new reflective dress from a distance of 1,600 feet. He can see ordinary gloves only 300 feet away, but can spot gloves made with the new yarn as far away as 1,400 feet.

★

A new machine called Apota is helping scientists find out what happens to rockets after they leave the ground. It automatically follows the course of a flying missile and records broadcasts sent by radio equipment installed in the rocket.

## Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are on page 8, column 4.

1. Organized labor considers its right to strike *inviolable* (in-vi'ô-lû-b'l). (a) in danger (b) secure from violation (c) changeable (d) temporary and subject to change.

2. The lawmakers probably will *rescind* (rê-sind') that resolution. (a) pass (b) cancel (c) study (d) defend.

3. Congressional committees often *interrogate* (in-tair'ô-gât) witnesses. (a) question (b) tend to terrify (c) mistreat (d) invite.

4. *Statutory* (stât'yoo-tô'ri) authority is (a) resented (b) based on uncertain grounds (c) wisely used (d) established by law.

5. When we refer to *per capita* (pûr kâp'î-tah) income, we mean the amount of income there is for each (a) person (b) family (c) man (d) woman.

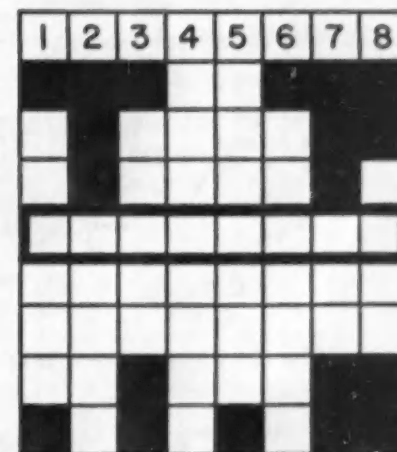
6. When government jobs are filled by *patronage* (pâ-trûn-ij'), they are given as (a) an earned promotion (b) recognition for hard study (c) reward for political support (d) part of the merit system.

7. *Unethical* (ûn-êth'î-call) practices in government are considered (a) businesslike (b) morally wrong (c) profitable (d) praiseworthy.

## CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

Fill in numbered vertical rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell the name of a city.

- Indonesia lies between the Pacific and \_\_\_\_\_ Oceans.
- World War II ended 10 years ago with surrender by \_\_\_\_\_.
- Americans are debating whether the large number of \_\_\_\_\_ rejections means that our youths are really physically unfit.
- President of Indonesia.
- One of the largest islands of Indonesia, lying at the west end of that country.
- Premier of Indonesia.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is a major Indonesian export.
- Most thickly populated Indonesian island.



## Last Week

HORIZONTAL: Palestine. VERTICAL: 1. Topeka; 2. Gaza; 3. Nile; 4. Suez; 5. Nasser; 6. fourth; 7. Cairo; 8. Jordan; 9. federal.

# The Story of the Week

## Moscow and Bonn

For the first time since West Germany was established in 1949, that country and Russia plan to exchange ambassadors. An agreement for carrying on diplomatic relations between Moscow and Bonn (the West German capital) was reached during Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's visit to the Soviet capital earlier this month. The two sides also agreed to begin talks soon on trade between West Germany and Russia.

Moscow has been trying to get Bonn to agree to an exchange of ambassadors for some months now. In return for the recent accord on this matter, the Soviets made a promise—though not in the form of a written pledge as requested by West Germany—to release thousands of German war prisoners held since World War II.

Adenauer reminded the Russians that establishing relations with Moscow doesn't mean that West Germany accepts her present boundaries as permanent ones. He added that he considers his government, not that of communist-ruled East Germany, to be the one which rightfully speaks for the German people. None of these provisions are mentioned, however, in the Moscow-Bonn agreement.

Some German political leaders are critical of the Moscow accord. They argue that West Germany should not have agreed to carry on diplomatic relations with Moscow until Russia made definite written pledges to release German war captives, and until she promised to take steps leading to the unification of divided Germany. Hence, Adenauer may have trouble in getting the German legislature to ratify the Moscow agreement.

The entire question of unifying democratic West Germany and communist East Germany will be one of the big issues to be discussed by the foreign affairs chiefs of the United States, Britain, France, and Russia when they meet October 27.

## Safer Cars

A number of the 1956 autos are going to be equipped with new safety features. Some of the cars will come equipped with special steering wheels designed to protect the driver from serious injuries in the event of a crash. New safety belts for passengers will also be available in a number of 1956 models.

Other safety features include padded instrument panels, safety rear-view



GONDOLA PARADE in the Italian city of Venice. It is a highlight of the city's fall festival. In everyday life, the gondolas are the chief means of transport. Venice is made up of 118 islands, and has 160 canals crossed by about 400 bridges.

mirrors made of non-shattering glass, and special door latches which will keep the doors from bursting open in case of a crash.

## Contest in Brazil

Brazil is in the midst of one of the liveliest election campaigns in its history. At stake, in the contest scheduled for October 3, is the presidency of South America's largest nation.

Two of the three leading candidates for Brazil's highest elective office favor many of the policies advocated by the late President Getulio Vargas, who took his life after he was forced out of office in 1954. Vargas generally supported close ties with the United States. His opponents accused him of using dictatorial methods in governing the country.

The candidate who appears to have most supporters among Brazilian voters is Juscelino Kubitschek. He was a political friend of the late Vargas. The other candidate with a pro-Vargas following is Adhemar de Barros, former governor of Brazil's most populous state—Sao Paulo.

The third leading candidate for the

presidency heads political groups opposed to the pro-Vargas camp. He is General Juarez Tavora.

Whatever the outcome of the election, this year's contest is likely to bring a record turn-out of voters in Brazil. Not only is there widespread interest in the presidential race, but a new law requires all eligible citizens in Brazil to vote on election day. Those who fail to cast a ballot may be fined, lose their right to hold any government post whatsoever, and suffer other penalties.

## Disarmament Plans

One of the big issues before the United Nations General Assembly, now meeting in New York City, has to do with disarmament. For some weeks now, a UN disarmament group, which includes representatives of the United States, Britain, France, Canada, and Russia, has been going over arms reduction plans.

These include a suggestion made by President Eisenhower last summer. The Chief Executive proposed that nations be allowed to inspect one another's defenses whenever they wish—to make certain that no country is building power with which to launch a surprise atomic war. After an inspection system is put into effect, the President favors a gradual reduction of armaments by all nations.

Britain has likewise suggested a plan under which both the communist countries and members of NATO would be permitted to inspect one another's defenses. The British also propose that an area 100 miles deep on both sides of the Iron Curtain be demilitarized to help avert trouble between the western nations and the Reds. These would be first steps toward substantial disarmament later on.

Other disarmament plans are being suggested as representatives of western and communist nations continue

to discuss this problem. It remains to be seen what, if anything, will come of these proposals.

## Junior Colleges

A number of communities in various parts of the nation have, in recent years, established free, public junior colleges providing 2 years of schooling beyond high school. Many other areas are planning to open such institutions.

A comment made earlier this month by President Eisenhower on the need for free junior colleges has increased public interest in this type of school. The President said that all of us should have more schooling than ever before to prepare for our duties as citizens in "the complicated life we have today." He suggested that communities across the nation establish free, 2-year junior colleges to meet the need for more schooling.

The Chief Executive also suggested that the need for additional schooling might be met, in part at least, by adding another year to the regular 4-year high school course. Colleges, too, the President said, should think of lengthening their 4-year study programs.

What do you think of the President's educational proposals? Write and tell us your views on this issue.

## Congressmen Abroad

In the weeks following the adjournment of Congress last August 3, about a third of the nation's 530 or so legislators went on study trips abroad. Some of these congressmen have since returned home, while others are still visiting foreign lands.

Are congressional trips abroad, the cost of which are usually borne by the American taxpayer, worth the expense? "Yes," says Democratic Representative Harrison Williams of New Jersey. Congressman Williams has this to say about congressional tours:



CYPRUS, in the Mediterranean, is about half the size of New Jersey. England controls it. Turkey wants it because it lies close to her, but Greece thinks she should have it because most of the population is of Greek origin.



There are frequent criticisms in the press that many legislators go abroad chiefly because they want an enjoyable vacation at the taxpayers' expense. Actually, there are very few congressmen who abuse their legislative privileges in that way. Most lawmakers follow rigid travel schedules worked out ahead of time to learn what they can do about specific problems in which they have a special interest.

Study missions by the lawmakers have to be approved by congressional committees. The committee chairman, as well as a special congressional group which handles such matters, keeps a close check on the activities and expenditures of each lawmaker who travels in other lands.

Overseas trips by congressmen are of great value to the lawmakers. Such tours not only provide the legislator with valuable information, but they also help him understand foreign problems in human terms—an understanding which could not otherwise be gained.

Rightly or wrongly, such are the opinions of Representative Williams, and he has much support for his views among his fellow lawmakers.

## Waterfront Trouble

The port of New York, which includes dock and warehouse facilities in New York City and nearby communities, is the nation's largest shipping center. Each year it handles about 9,000 ships and nearly 200 million tons of cargo.

Earlier this month, as on a number of other occasions within recent years, the big port took on the appearance of a paralyzed giant. Few ships pulled into its wharves because there were not enough workers on hand to unload cargoes. Labor strife kept most workers off their jobs.

The walk-out was caused by a dispute between the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA), which is the dockworkers' union, and the New York-New Jersey Waterfront Commission. The bi-state group was organized about 2 years ago to help avert strikes on the waterfront and to do away with crime and corruption alleged to exist within ILA ranks.



THE NAVY'S NEW TRAINING JET, the T2V-1, is tried out in California's Mojave Desert on a make-believe carrier deck. Except that this one doesn't roll, as would be the case on a carrier at sea, the deck is built like the real thing. A signal officer is directing the plane to a landing. It can fly 600 miles an hour, but can reduce speed to 97 miles an hour—slower than other jets—for landing.

ILA officials argued that the Waterfront Commission had been interfering needlessly with union activities on the docks.

Now, a special citizens' group is looking into union grievances against the Waterfront agency. When the new study group was established about a week and a half ago, the strike was called off for the time being. It may or may not break out again.

## Defense Cuts?

Congress has set aside about 59 billion dollars for the federal government to carry on its work in the fiscal (bookkeeping) year ending next June. A large slice of this amount—nearly 32 billion dollars—is earmarked for defense purposes. After all revenues are in, it is estimated that Uncle Sam will have a deficit (spending over income) of about 1.7 billion dollars in the current bookkeeping year.

The Eisenhower administration wants to reduce the deficit sharply or erase it altogether. To help achieve

this goal, the White House has called for new efforts to reduce military spending by about a billion dollars.

Some Americans, including most Democrats, are highly critical of the GOP plan to cut defense expenditures. They argue:

"The Republicans promised the voters a balanced budget in the 1952 election campaign. Now, in preparation for the 1956 Presidential contest, they want to fulfill that pledge even though further cuts in military spending might weaken our defenses.

"Actually, the Eisenhower administration has already reduced our defenses to the danger point by past 'economy' moves. Additional reductions in our military preparedness program, in these uncertain times, could lead to disaster."

The other side, including most Republicans, has this to say:

"Defense spending has been reduced in recent years chiefly by cutting out waste in our military expenditures. We are now getting much more for our defense dollar than we did when the Democrats were in power. Further reductions can be made without weakening the nation's defenses.

"All in all, we are becoming militarily stronger every day. Though the present administration wants a balanced budget, it has no intention of accomplishing this at the expense of our security."

Meanwhile, a Senate committee is now investigating our over-all defense program. The group particularly wants to find out how U. S. air power compares with that of Russia.

## Argentina—What Next?

Unless unforeseen developments arise, next week's major articles will deal with (1) the new session of the Supreme Court, and (2) Argentina.

As we go to press, Argentina is in the midst of another military revolt against the government of Juan Peron. In the coming issue of the AMERICAN OBSERVER, we shall review the background of the trouble in this South American land, and give the pros and cons of the two sides in the conflict.

# SPORTS

WILL 1955 be the year when the Brooklyn Dodgers finally win their first World Series? Dodger fans are hopeful—but they have their fingers crossed. Brooklyn has never yet triumphed in World Series play, though the competition which gets under way this week will mark the 8th time that the Dodgers have appeared in the fall classic.

Brooklyn fans are inclined to think, though, that the Dodgers have an especially good chance to break their World Series jinx this year. Brooklyn clinched the pennant on September 8, the earliest that a National League championship has ever been won. Consequently, Manager Walter Alton has had a chance to rest some of his key players and to make his pitching plans well in advance.

On the other hand, the American League winner will have to go into the series after a grueling fight for the league championship. So evenly matched were several of the American League clubs, that the team which will meet the Dodgers in the World Series was still undetermined as this paper went to press.

Among the many stars in the Brooklyn line-up are Captain Pee-wee Reese at shortstop, Roy Campanella behind the plate, and Duke Snider in the outfield. Snider was one of the batting heroes of the 1953 series when Brooklyn lost to the New York Yankees.

One big difference between the 1953 Dodgers and the present team is that Don Newcombe is playing this year. The big pitcher was in the Army in 1953, but this season he has been one of baseball's outstanding players. Not only has he been the Dodgers' top winner on the mound, but his hitting has won many a game for Brooklyn.



HARD TO CONCENTRATE

This fall's competition will be the 52nd time that the World Series has gone on. American League teams have won 33 series, while the National League champs have triumphed 18 times.

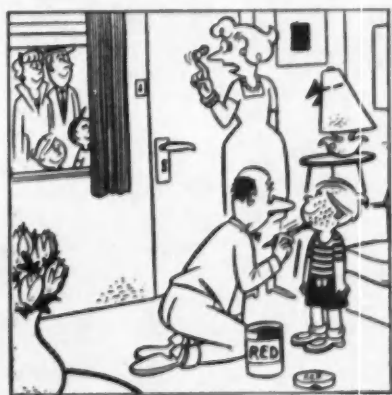
Taking part in the World Series gives each player's income a big boost. Members of the winning team are awarded a larger share of the proceeds than are the losers. The highest shares came last year when each member of the winning New York Giants received about \$11,150 as a World Series prize.

## THE LIGHTER SIDE

Dick: What do you throw out when you need it and take in when you don't?

Betty: I don't know. What is it?

Dick: An anchor.



"Hurry, John, here they come!"

Uncle: In my first job I was a store detective.

Modern nephew: Oh—you mean a counter spy!

Definition of a diplomat: A person who thinks twice before saying nothing.

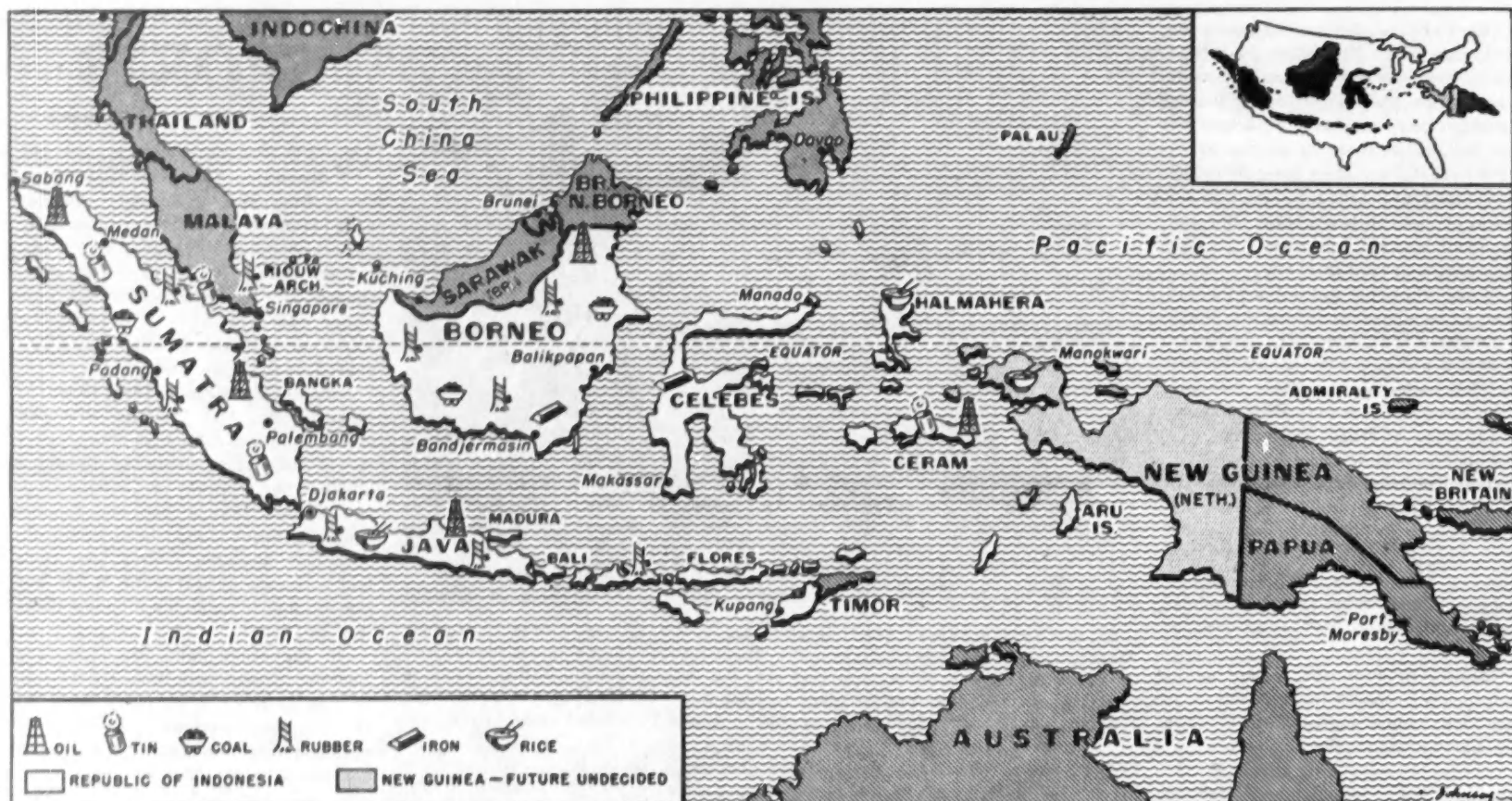
One camper to another: The best way to make a fire with two sticks is to be sure one of them is a match.

George Washington was never licked until he got on a postage stamp, and then only when his back was turned.

Manager: Did you mark **Fragile—This Side Up** on that carton of glasses?

New clerk: Yes, sir. And to make sure everybody sees it, I marked it on both sides.





INDONESIA IS A LAND OF SOME 2,000 ISLANDS lying between the Indian and the Pacific Oceans. Total population is about 80 million.

## Indonesia Votes

(Continued from page 1)

equal to that of Utah and Idaho combined. Java, where the capital city of Djakarta is located, is the most thickly populated region of its size on the globe. In an area about as big as Alabama live 53 million people. Other major islands include the four-pronged island of Celebes and primitive Borneo. The latter is partly under British control.

Jagged mountains with many active volcanoes, palm-girded coast lines, colorful birds, and vari-hued flowers help to make Indonesia one of the most scenic lands on earth. Plant life, growing in volcanic ash, is unbelievably lush. Rice is the most important food crop, while major export crops include tea, rubber, sugar, coffee, and palm oil.

For hundreds of years, these islands were under Dutch rule. The Netherlands built up a thriving trade on the spices, rubber, quinine, tin, oil, and other products of their Asian colony.

After World War II, the natives of Indonesia, like so many other colonial peoples, demanded their freedom. The Dutch did not want to give up their profitable colony, and several years of warfare followed. In 1949—after the United Nations had stepped in—an independent Indonesia was set up.

Under Dr. Soekarno, a long-time leader in the independence movement, a democratic-type government was established. No nation-wide elections were held, though. Conditions were so unsettled in the islands that voting was impossible at that time.

Consequently Dr. Soekarno appointed the first lawmakers with the understanding that elections would be held as soon as possible. The problems confronting the young government were so many and complex that the balloting was postponed time and again by Soekarno, who is Indonesia's president.

Most leaders in the island nation agree, however, that elections are now

absolutely necessary. A considerable number of the appointed lawmakers have been charged with "playing politics" and ignoring the wishes of those citizens they are supposed to represent. Elected lawmakers, on the other hand, will know that they may not be returned to office if they don't do a good job of working for their constituents.

The new parliament will have some big problems to tackle. Corruption has crept into the government. For example, traders who want import licenses—so that they can bring foreign goods into the country—have often had to make "pay-offs" to politicians. If left unchecked, corruption could wreck the young nation.

Indonesia is, despite its natural

wealth, having plenty of trouble keeping the economy on a sound basis. Inflation is a constant threat, and the treasury has had a deficit (spent more than it collected) every year. The government's financial policies have not always proved wise.

Indonesia badly needs to develop its resources, but it lacks the money and the experienced personnel to tackle the problem. Many U. S. companies would jump at the chance of investing money in Indonesia if they were sure that the Indonesian government would not step in and take over their profits or equipment. But the government has shown a suspicious attitude toward foreign investors in general, and the flow of money which Indonesia needs for its development has been lagging.

Even law and order is lacking in certain areas. Several rebel groups defy the Djakarta government. In some regions, bandits roam the high-ways.

But there is a bright side to the picture as well as a dark one. Indonesia does not have the extreme poverty found in so many parts of Asia. In these fertile islands, no one starves. Rice production is rising. Substantial deposits of tin, petroleum, bauxite (in which aluminum is found), iron ore, and coal may some day be the basis of thriving industry.

Educational progress is especially encouraging. There were few schools under Dutch rule, and when the young nation came into existence in 1949, only about 5 per cent of the people



THE RIVER MOESI and some of the houses of the city of Palembang on Sumatra Island. Big ships can use the river to reach the ocean. Palembang, population over 100,000, is a big trading center for Indonesian oil and rubber producers.



were literate (could read or write). Today schools are being established everywhere. Figures vary as to how many people are now literate, but they range from 25 to 50 per cent.

By 1961 it is hoped that every child will be able to get at least 6 years of schooling. High schools and colleges are being expanded. English is a compulsory study, beginning in junior high school.

As education becomes widespread and as Indonesia's leaders gain more experience in governing, U. S. observers are hopeful that the young nation will solve the big problems confronting it. American officials feel, though, that Indonesia's future may be determined in large degree by the way she reacts to the communist threat.

The Reds are one of many legal political parties in Indonesia. They hold 17 seats in the 237-member legislature. The communists claim half a million members at large, and they are especially influential in some of the large trade unions.

The communists would like to tie Indonesia closely to Red China and the Soviet Union. If they should succeed in taking control of Indonesia's government, observers agree that all of Southeast Asia would probably fall into the Red orbit. The resources of the island nation would immeasurably strengthen the communist lands.

In 1948, the Reds tried to take over Indonesia by force but failed. About 2 years ago, though, they gave their support to the coalition of parties ruling Indonesia and thus—in the eyes of many Indonesians—gained respectability.

#### Government Shake-up

This past summer, the government which the Reds supported fell. The Masjumi Party, a Moslem organization and a bitter foe of the communists, is the principal group in the new coalition which has been running the government for the past 6 weeks. The Reds are no longer in a position of authority.

This week's balloting should show for the first time just how much support the communists have among the Indonesian people. The election may also determine whether or not Indonesia will have closer relations with the United States.

In world affairs, the young nation has been following what it claims to be a neutral path, siding neither with the communists nor the western nations. Behind Indonesia's reluctance to develop closer relations with the western nations—it is generally agreed—is her fear of foreign domination, stemming from long years under Dutch control.

Some U. S. observers think that a victory for the Masjumi Party in this week's balloting would result in closer relations between Indonesia and the United States. Premier Burhanuddin Harahap, head of the Masjumi Party, favors a continued neutral policy, but also says that a closer relationship between his country and the U. S. should be developed.

This year we are extending Indonesia about \$7,000,000 in technical aid. The money is being used to instruct Indonesians in better farm methods and in health and sanitation measures. Mr. Harahap has indicated that he would like to have an expanded program of U. S. assistance. If this week's election keeps his party in a strong position, U. S.-Indonesian ties may be closer in the future.



CIVILIAN (top row) and military leaders of the nation's armed forces. Their offices are in the huge Pentagon Building located in Virginia—just across the Potomac River from the nation's capital.

## Our Top Defense Leaders

Civilian and Military Officials in Pentagon Help to Shape Our Nation's Over-all Defense Policies

THE Pentagon Building, located across the Potomac River from Washington, D. C., is the headquarters of our country's top defense planners. It is here that civilian and military leaders draw up plans for protecting our nation in the event of an enemy attack.

Charles E. Wilson, as *Secretary of Defense*, heads the entire Defense Department consisting of more than 4,000,000 military and civilian personnel. He is Eisenhower's closest adviser on matters pertaining to national security.

Mr. Wilson is assisted by 3 other civilian officials: Secretary of the Army Wilber Brucker, Secretary of the Navy Charles Thomas, and Air Force Secretary Donald Quarles. These 4 men together are known as the *Joint Secretaries*.

#### The Military Chiefs

The military equivalent to this civilian group is the *Joint Chiefs of Staff*, under the chairmanship of Admiral Arthur Radford. Other JCS members are General Maxwell Taylor, representing the Army, Admiral Arleigh Burke of the Navy, and General Nathan Twining of the Air Force.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff advise Secretary Wilson and President Eisenhower on military matters. They also meet with the Joint Secretaries to discuss broad defense policies.

Here are brief sketches of these top men in our defense setup:

Charles E. Wilson, born 65 years ago in Minerva, Ohio, rose from an electrical engineer earning 18 cents an hour to president of General Motors. As GM head during World War II, he became highly experienced in defense production problems.

Wilber Brucker, 61, is civilian head of the Army. After serving in the Army during World War I, he went into Michigan politics. At the age of 33, he was attorney general of the state, and, in 1931, became governor. Last year he became general counsel for the Defense Department, and recently was appointed *Secretary of the Army*.

Donald Quarles, 61, is *Secretary of the Air Force*. He was an honor student at Yale, an Army captain in World War I, a vice president of the Western Electric Company, and mayor of Englewood, New Jersey, in 1946 and 1947. Prior to his present post, Quarles was Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Charles S. Thomas, 57, was sworn in as *Secretary of the Navy* in May of 1954. Previous to his appointment, he was Under Secretary of the Navy, and Assistant Secretary of Defense. During World War I, Thomas was a naval aviator. He attended Cornell University and the University of California.

Admiral Arthur Radford, 59, is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He saw duty with the Atlantic Fleet in World War I, and commanded carrier task forces in the Pacific during the Second World War. He became *chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff* in 1953.

General Maxwell Taylor, 53, was fourth in his class at West Point. He was a pioneer in the development of paratroop methods. Before becoming *Army Chief of Staff*, Taylor was head of the United States Far East Command. An expert in languages, he can speak French, Spanish, Italian, German, Korean, and Japanese.

#### Air Force Leader

General Nathan Twining, 57-year-old *Air Chief of Staff*, also received his training at the U. S. Military Academy. Upon graduation he became an infantry officer, but later entered the Air Force as a fighter pilot. He commanded Air Force groups in Italy and the Pacific during the period of World War II.

Admiral Arleigh Burke, 53, is *Chief of Naval Operations*. He is an Annapolis graduate and commanded a destroyer squadron during World War II which was credited with sinking a Japanese cruiser, 9 destroyers, a submarine, and shooting down 30 planes. He was deputy Chief of Staff in the Far East during the Korean War. Appointed to his present post last August, Burke has spent 32 years in the Navy.

## Doing Your Part

By Walter E. Myer

IF YOU were to be placed in charge of a community chest drive in your school or city—if you had no one to share responsibility but were obliged to manage it yourself, you would step out and do your best. You would be determined that the drive should not fail.

Suppose you were given an even larger job—suppose you were told that you and you alone had to decide what part our country should play in the effort to maintain permanent peace—you would feel the responsibility deeply. You would spend every moment of your time reading, studying, thinking, advising with counselors, trying to succeed at this vital task.

But you do not have full charge of either of these projects. You are but one of several million whose support is called for in the local chest drive, and you are but one of the millions who, through their expressions of opinion, help to shape international policy. Only a little of the total responsibility is on your shoulders.

If you are a person of the ordinary sort, you take your small share of responsibility very lightly. "What difference will it make what I think or do?" you may say. You feel that things will go along about the same whether you take any action or not. If you stand back, someone else will go forward and the result will be about the same.

This tendency of so many people to act only when they see immediate results of their action is one of the weaknesses of democracy. The true American spirit prompts each individual to do his part in community or nation, even though the part seems a small one.

A city in which there are too many of the ordinary type who let others do the civic work is a sorry city. Moreover, when too many citizens of a nation are indifferent to the great problems of the national life, that nation is in danger of decline or of losing its freedom.

National progress comes not from single acts of powerful leaders but by the seemingly small efforts of multitudes of individuals directed toward worthy ends. That is the way democracy must operate, and if it does not work in that way, it fails. Our country, and every community within it, needs people with imagination enough to understand this process and with determination enough to find their places in it.

Each person has some influence. Those who have informed convictions and public spirit have influence out of proportion to their numbers. Those who are true to the ideals of our Republic will shake off the bonds of laziness or indifference and each in his own sphere will give of his time and thought for the benefit of his community and his country.

All of us can do our part by reading about public problems and cooperating with civic and political groups that are trying to solve these problems on the local and national level.



Walter E. Myer



## Career for Tomorrow - - In Atomic Energy

**V**OCATIONS with unlimited opportunities for the future—that is what U. S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) chairman Lewis Strauss says of jobs in the atomic energy field. Not only Uncle Sam, but more and more electric power plants, medical research laboratories, and many other private industries are putting the atom to work. They need highly trained men and women to fill the new jobs that are opening up.

**Your duties**, if you choose this field, will be varied. The development of atomic energy has produced very few jobs that are unique to the field. It has, instead, drawn on practically every branch of science and engineering, as well as business administration, accounting, and others, for its personnel.

**Your qualifications**, according to an AEC official, should include a high degree of competence. If you want to make your career in this challenging new field, you should begin now to build a reputation for thorough, painstaking work.

You must also possess a high moral character. All persons who have access to atomic secrets, in the federal government or on the outside, are carefully investigated to make certain that they are absolutely loyal to this country. Even those atomic energy employees who don't have access to secret material are screened to see that they are honest and loyal.

**Your training** will depend upon the specific type of work you plan to do.

For scientific jobs in atomic energy, you should take a college preparatory course in high school with emphasis on the sciences. In college, you will do your major work in one of the sciences, such as physics, biology, geology, or chemistry. To reach the top you should plan on getting a Ph.D. degree, which takes another 3 or 4



WORKER in an atomic laboratory

years to complete in addition to your regular college course.

If you want to become an engineer in nuclear work, you should take mathematics, chemistry, physics, and mechanical drawing in high school. Then get a degree at an engineering school.

In addition to scientists and engineers, the atomic energy industry employs stenographers, typists, machinists, and other skilled and unskilled workers. These people, like the professional groups, should have good

training in their particular line of work.

**Your salary** in atomic energy work is likely to be about the same as that paid for similar work in other industries. A young scientist with a Ph.D. degree but with no previous experience, for instance, can expect to earn between \$5,000 and \$6,000 a year. Salaries of experienced scientists and engineers are much higher.

**Further information**, including a special kit of materials on atomic energy for high school students, can be secured from the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

**Opportunities in Atomic Energy**, a book by K. D. Hartzell, discusses work in this field. Published by Grossett and Dunlap, Inc., 1107 Broadway, New York 10, N. Y., the book costs \$1.

There are hundreds of college and university scholarships available to young people interested in science and engineering who want a career in atomic energy. Write to your state university for information.

### Pronunciations

Adhemar de Barros—ā-day'mār dē bār'-rōs  
Burhanuddin Harahap—būr'hā-nū'dīn hā'rā-hāp'  
Djakarta—juh-kār'tuh  
Getulio Vargas—zhē-tō'yōō vār'gus  
Juarez Tavora—war'ēz tā-vaw'rā  
Juscelino Kubitschek—hōō'sē-lē'nō kōō-pēt'shēk  
Konrad Adenauer—kōnē'rāt ā'duh-now-er  
Moesi—mōō'sē  
Soekarno—sōō-kār-nō

## News Quiz

### Denver Conference

1. According to results obtained in the Kraus-Weber Tests, how do American children and young people compare with Europeans in muscular fitness?
2. About what percentage of the men examined for military service during the Korean War period were rejected for physical reasons?
3. What do critics say about the Kraus-Weber Tests and draft rejection figures as means of measuring our young people's physical condition?
4. Give some of the arguments used by people who don't think there is much to worry about, so far as the muscular fitness of American youth is concerned.
5. According to those who fear that the nation's young people are becoming soft and flabby, what are some reasons for this development?
6. At the Denver conference this week, what are some lines of action likely to be proposed for improving the physical condition of American youth?
7. Briefly discuss the relationship between recreation programs and the fight against juvenile delinquency.

### Discussion

1. Do you agree with the charge that young people in this country are becoming too soft and flabby? Explain your position.
2. If you feel that American youths—in general—need "toughening up," what steps would you recommend for this purpose?

### Indonesia

1. In what respects may Indonesia be regarded as a "big" nation?
2. How did the status of the islands change after World War II?
3. Why have elections not been held in Indonesia before now?
4. What troubles will confront the new parliament?
5. Describe the educational progress the young nation has made.
6. In what ways have the communists been able to exert influence in Indonesia?
7. What has been Indonesia's foreign policy?
8. How has the United States been helping Indonesia?

### Discussion

1. Do you think that Indonesia is justified in the neutral policy she has been following in foreign affairs? Why, or why not?
2. If the new government of Indonesia will accept an expanded program of U. S. aid, would you be in favor of extending such assistance? Explain.

### Miscellaneous

1. What are some of the U. S. customs that are being adopted in other countries?
2. What are the chief results of the recent Soviet-West German talks?
3. When will Brazil vote for a new president?
4. How do you feel about President Eisenhower's educational proposals on junior colleges and extending the time a young person spends in school?
5. Briefly describe the U. S. and British disarmament plans.
6. Briefly state arguments for and against Republican plans to reduce our defense spending.

### References

- "The Report that Shocked the President," by Robert Boyle, *Sports Illustrated*, August 15, 1955. On the question of physical fitness.
- "Indonesia: Islands of Beauty and Turmoil," by James A. Michener, *Reader's Digest*, September 1955.
- "This Young Giant, Indonesia," by Beverley M. Bowie, *National Geographic Magazine*, September 1955.

### Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (b) secure from violation; 2. (b) cancel; 3. (a) question; 4. (d) established by law; 5. (a) person; 6. (c) reward for political support; 7. (b) morally wrong.

## Historical Backgrounds - - Past Septembers

**J**UST 179 years ago this month, the American patriot Nathan Hale gave his life for his country. Caught by the British when spying on them for General George Washington, Hale was executed on the morning of September 22, 1776.

His last words as he went to the gallows have been cherished by Americans ever since. "I only regret," he said, "that I have but one life to lose for my country."

Many other noteworthy events in our history took place in the month of September. Here are a few of them:

September 6, 1620, the ship *Mayflower*, carrying 149 persons who were seeking a new way of life, sailed from Plymouth, England, for the New World. *Mayflower* passengers sighted what is now Cape Cod, Massachusetts, November 9, and later founded a settlement nearby which they called Plymouth.

September 5, 1774, the First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia's Carpenters' Hall. Delegates from 12 of the 13 Colonies met to discuss grievances against the harsh rule of the mother country, England.

September 3, 1783, a peace treaty was signed between Britain and the United States in Paris, France. The treaty brought a formal end to the Revolutionary War, though most fighting between the two sides had ceased about 2 years before that time.

September 13, 1814, British ships bombarded Fort Mchenry near Baltimore during the War of 1812. On board one of the British ships was an

American, Francis Scott Key. Key jotted down a poem on the back of an old envelope when he saw that our flag could not be downed by the British assault. The poem later became our national anthem—the Star-Spangled Banner.

September 23, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. This Presidential order declared that slavery was to end in all states which had left the Union.

September 14, 1897, Hawaii ratified a treaty under which that island territory became annexed to the United States. We had agreed to annex the island country a few months earlier.

September 6, 1901, President William McKinley was shot while attending a Pan-American exhibition in Buffalo, New York. The President died



A BRITISH OFFICER presents his sword in surrender to General Washington at the close of the Revolutionary War. The peace treaty was signed September 3, 1783.

8 days later, and Vice President Theodore Roosevelt became Chief Executive.

September 8, 1920, transcontinental airmail was established between New York City and San Francisco.

September 21, 1938, a hurricane struck the Atlantic Coast and New England without warning, causing some 700 deaths and many millions of dollars in property damage.

September 1, 1939, troops of Nazi Germany smashed into Poland at dawn. Britain and France declared war on Germany September 3, and World War II was under way. We entered the conflict December 8, 1941, the day after Japan attacked our bases in the Pacific.

September 2, 1945, Japan formally surrendered in ceremonies which took place on board the battleship *Missouri*. On that date, World War II officially came to an end.

September 23, 1949, President Truman publicly announced for the first time that Russia had exploded an atomic bomb.

September 4, 1951, a transcontinental television network was put into operation. The first coast-to-coast TV program telecast President Truman's address to officials who met in San Francisco to sign the Japanese peace treaty. The treaty was signed 4 days later.

September 8, 1954, 8 nations—the United States, Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Thailand, and the Philippines—signed the Southeast Asian Treaty Organization pact for the defense of the Pacific.